



# ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

**WEEKLY SCHOOL BULLETIN**

**April 1, 2016**

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**A NATIONAL SCHOOL  
OF EXCELLENCE**

St. Mark Catholic School  
is a two time recipient of the  
U.S. Department of Education  
"National Blue Ribbon Award."  
This means that our students  
consistently score in the top 15%  
in the nation on standardized  
tests.

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

Follow us and stay connected!

## REMINDERS

### Monday, April 4:

-St. Mark Spirit Day (details below)

-Popcorn orders will be taken April 4-7 benefitting Middle School Yearbook (details below)

### Tuesday, April 5:

-3:30 PM, Respect Life Club Meeting: Respect for Adoption

### Friday, April 8:

-8:30 AM, Church: All School Mass. The Mass is planned by the 2nd grade. They will offer the Call to Worship, the Mass readings, and present the Communion gifts. All are welcome.

-12:00 PM, Early Dismissal. The After School Program will be available until 6:00 PM. Please send a lunch with all After School Program students.

-Raising Cane's Fundraiser (details below)

-5:00-8:00 PM, Cafetorium: St. Mark Family S.T.E.M. Fair (details below)

## ST. MARK SPIRIT DAY!

Monday, April 4 is St. Mark **Spirit Day!** Students may wear a St. Mark t-shirt or sweatshirt of their choosing (this includes any shirt with the St. Mark name, including Field Day shirts). These may be worn with jeans, slacks, Capri-style pants, the school skirt, the school pants, or the school uniform walking shorts. Students may wear any closed shoe. (Sweatpants, leggings, shorts (other than the school uniform walking shorts), caps/accessories,



## PLAN AHEAD: 4 DAY WEEKEND IN APRIL

Because we did not use the inclement weather days that are built into our school calendar, we will have a 4-day weekend in April. Friday, April 22 and Monday, April 25 are now school holidays. Enjoy!



**Nominate Someone for a Work of Heart Award:** Do you know a St. Mark teacher or staff member who goes "above and beyond" for our school community? If so, consider nominating him or her for a Work of Heart Award. Presented by The Catholic Foundation, these awards honor those who "go the extra mile" in serving our educational community. For more information about the Work of Heart award, or to submit a nomination, [click here](#). 37 St. Mark staffers have received this award since its inception in 2005.



## MAY WATCH D.O.G.S. DAYS NOW AVAILABLE

Calling All "Dads of Great Students": [Click here](#) to reserve your spot during the month of May,

and solid green/gold shirts without the St. Mark name are not permitted.)

Please follow the dress policy as written. No exceptions. For your reference, Spirit Days for the entire school year have been added to the electronic calendar located on the homepage of our [website](#).

### POPCORN SALE BENEFITTING MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARBOOK

The Middle School Yearbook elective will be selling popcorn to all students (PK3-8th grade) next week. Popcorn orders will be taken during class time between Monday, April 4 through Thursday, April 7. Popcorn bags are \$2.00 each. Choose from Butter, White Cheddar, Salsa, or Vanilla (Texas wildflower colors). Order extra bags for gifts or snacks. Exact change is appreciated. Payment must be made during the order process. The popcorn will be delivered to students during school as a morning/afternoon snack on April 12. If your child would like to enjoy a bag of popcorn, be sure that he/she pre-orders and pays between 4/4-7. Please help support the middle school yearbook elective and enjoy a tasty treat!

### STAFFING UPDATES

A few staff updates for the 2016-17 school year:

Lynette Jackson, who teaches PreK-3, will be joining the faculty at St. Rita Catholic School in Dallas next year to assist them as they start a PK-4 program. Mrs. Jackson has been teaching at St. Mark since 2011, and has had her children here since 2004. She has been a wonderful

or for more information about our Watch D.O.G.S. program. Sign-ups are due April 15. Half days and full days are available. Remember, you must be [Safe Environment trained](#) to volunteer as a Watch D.O.G.



### HALF DAYS ARE CANE'S DAYS AT ST. MARK!

**Half Days are Cane's Days at St. Mark!** On each early dismissal day this school year, eat at Raising Cane's across the street from the school. Simply mention St. Mark as you place your order and a percentage of your purchase will be donated back to the St. Mark Athletic Department! **Visit anytime NEXT Friday, April 8 between 10:00 AM and 11:00 PM.** Treat your family, and earn money for our school!

### WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LIONLAND



#### Vocations

**Chalice:** 2nd grade was presented with the Vocations Chalice at the conclusion of today's All-School Mass. They will be praying for vocations during the upcoming week.



**Justice:** Teachers discuss the Virtue of the Month with students by using stories and activities to

asset to our Early Childhood Education staff, and we will miss her kind and caring presence. We wish her and her family the very best of luck.

Early Childhood Education Aid, Joanna Sweitzer, will be retiring this year. Mrs. Sweitzer has been a beloved presence in our Kindergarten and Preschool classes since 2006. We will miss her cheerfulness and her loving presence, and wish her a happy and fulfilling retirement.

St. Mark will be adding a third 1st grade class in 2016-17. Erin McCormick, current 3rd grade teacher, will be moving to this new position. When she completed her Masters program in reading and literacy, it was her goal to teach in kindergarten or first grade where students learn to read. We are very excited to bring her talents to our first grade team.

Interviews are beginning, and we will keep our community informed as new hires are confirmed.

#### **WANTED: 2016-17 ECE PART-TIME AID**

St. Mark Catholic School is looking for a part-time aid for 2016-17 Early Childhood Education classes. Interested parties should contact Mrs. Opon at [patricia.opon@stmcs.net](mailto:patricia.opon@stmcs.net).

#### **2016-17 SPRING BREAK**

Please note that our 2016-17 Spring Break is NOT aligned with Plano ISD next year. Spring Break dates are mandated by the diocese, so we had no flexibility with the dates. The good news is that all Catholic schools in the diocese will be on Spring

engage them into seeing the virtue in action. Ask your child what he/she is learning about "Justice" this month. [Click here](#) for the full list of monthly virtues for 2015-16.



#### **All-School Service Project:**

Service is an integral part of the mission of the Church. To help students understand that by serving others, they are serving God, they will participate in a required all-school service project each month.

**Students will receive a homework grade in Religion class for each month's assignment.**

**April Project:** The April service project is the annual Catholic Charities of Dallas Food Round-Up. Students will donate food by grade level. Please see the list of needed items below\*:

PreK - Dried beans, rice or pasta  
TK & K - Cereal or oatmeal  
1st grade - Jam or jelly  
2nd grade - Peanut butter  
3rd grade - Canned meat  
4th grade - Canned fruit  
5th grade - Cooking oil  
6th grade - Canned soup (15 oz.)  
7th grade - Canned beans  
8th grade - Canned vegetables

\*Please note: Students should check the expiration dates on any donated foods to make sure they are still good. Items with past expiration dates cannot be given to food pantries.

**Catholic Social Teaching:** Option for the poor and vulnerable

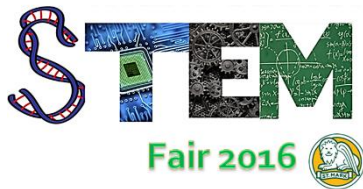
**Who Benefits?** Catholic Charities of Dallas

**Due Date:** Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Break at the same time, helping families with children at different Catholic schools.

**SAVE THE DATE: ST. MARK S.T.E.M. FAIR**

St. Mark Catholic School



**St. Mark Catholic School's  
First Annual S.T.E.M. Fair**

**Friday, April 8, 2016  
5:00-8:00 PM  
St. Mark Campus**

Experience interactive displays, hands-on activities and interesting information for children of all ages from the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math. 50 companies and organizations will be represented, including ...

**AT&T  
Fujitsu  
IBM  
Intel  
Raytheon  
Texas Instruments  
The University of North Texas  
The University of Texas at Dallas**

**DINNER**

**Bring your own dinner or order Papa John's pizza through the school.**



**LIFETIME LIONS**

**Calling all alumni ... join Lifetime Lions, our official alumni network!**

Keep up with former classmates, learn about mentoring opportunities, and volunteer for service hours. Click [here](#) for more information.

**LIONS DEN**

**Get your official LION gear here!** Check in at the school office on Fridays from 7:30-8:15 AM and shop 'til you drop at the Lion's Den Spirit Store located in the Cafetorium.

Can't visit in person? [Place your order online anytime!](#)

This is a great place to stock up on St. Mark shirts for our Spirit Days, which are held on the first Monday of each month!



**SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Minutes from the February 25, 2016 School Advisory Council meeting have been posted online. Please [click here](#) to view them.

**LIBRARY NEWS**

Did you know that throughout the year, our Librarian, Mrs. Hollenbeck, updates a list on the school website that shows the new books in the library? Have your student check-out the latest additions by [clicking here](#), and then check-out his/her next book!

If you plan to order pizza, please be sure to get your orders in TODAY. [Click here for more details.](#)

**A Dippin' Dots truck will also be on site!**

Agenda

5:00 PM - Dinner and fellowship in the Cafetorium

5:30 PM - The Science Presentation, presented by The University of Texas at Dallas, begins in the Cafetorium. Be amazed by the world of chemical reactions while your family enjoys dinner!

6:00 PM - S.T.E.M. rotations begin in the Bacot Gym

Questions? Contact  
[pam.steinkirchner@stmcs.net](mailto:pam.steinkirchner@stmcs.net).

We are honored to have John Paul II High School students **Allison N. '14** and Natalie J. serve as the event Co-Chairs.



**IMPORTANT HSA DATES:**

**Wednesday, April 13:** Teacher Luncheon hosted by 3rd and 4th grades

**Thursday, April 14-Monday, April 18:** Barnes and Noble Book Fair. Mrs. Opon and Ms. Steinkirchner will be reading to students, and the St. Mark Band will perform on Thursday. More details to follow.

**SPOTS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR 2016-17**

Do you know anyone interested in a Catholic education for their child? St. Mark has limited availability at various grade levels. For more information or to schedule a school tour, please call the school office at (972) 578-0610, or visit the school website at [www.stmcs.net](http://www.stmcs.net).

We also have "information cards" available at the church and school that contain general information and Open House dates. Feel free to stop by and pick some up. Pass them along to anyone who is interested in St. Mark Catholic School. [Click here](#) to see a sample.



**Upcoming Open House for PreK-3, PreK-4, PreK-5/Transitional Kindergarten & Kindergarten**

Wednesday, April 27, 2016  
4:30-6:30 PM, ECE Bldg.  
[Click here](#) to pre-register.

**NEW "REFERRAL THANK YOU PROGRAM"**

Each year, St. Mark is honored to welcome new families to our school community, many of whom were



### **3/30/16 HSA MEETING RECAP:**

If you missed the HSA General Meeting on Wednesday morning, you can [click here](#) to view the minutes.

**HSA Executive Board:** At the March 30 meeting, the candidates for the HSA Executive Board were presented. They are as follows: President- Ashley Ternan, Vice President- Jill Dourty, Treasurer- Paola Colon, and Secretary- no candidate yet. All of these positions are still open until the week of April 18. All those who are interested should contact [ashleyternan@gmail.com](mailto:ashleyternan@gmail.com).

Congratulations to the Pike family who, at the meeting, won HSA dues paid for the 2016-2017 school year!

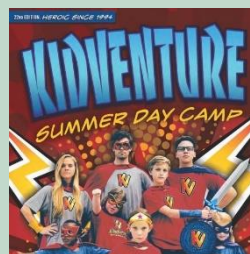
### **HELP NEEDED:**

**PK-5th Grade Memory Book Pictures:** Preschool-5th grade Memory Book pictures are needed. If you have pictures of Preschool-5<sup>th</sup> grade students, please download them directly to the memory book website (school activities, band, music, plays, spirit day, sports and candid). Please make sure the photos that are downloaded are not blurry, and are from a high resolution camera. A lot of pictures are taken with smartphones these days and unfortunately, the resolution isn't high enough, so those photos cannot be used in the memory book. Here's how to download the pictures:

Go to [www.yearbookforever.com](http://www.yearbookforever.com).

referred by our current school families. We think you should be rewarded for bringing new families to our school! Through our new "Referral Thank You Program," your family can receive a \$500 tuition credit for referring one new family to St. Mark. Please [click here](#) for details!

### **START PLANNING SUMMER WITH KIDVENTURE!**



**St. Mark**

#### **Summer Camps With**

**Kidventure:** We are pleased to once again offer full-time summer camps on the St. Mark campus with Kidventure. Kidventure is in its 22nd season of summer camp. This year's theme is **Summer Quest 2016**, a comic book come to life. Each week provides a new and unique adventure.

General registration for Kidventure's Summer Quest 2016 Day Camp is now available at <http://kidventure.com/register>. Click to select your child's Summer Quest adventures.

For more information, please visit <http://kidventure.com/plano-summercamp/>, or call [214.303.9789](tel:214.303.9789).

Type: St Mark (for the name, capital "S," no period after "St").

Click on "St Mark lower school"

Click on "Community upload" button

Access code: stmarklions

**REMINDERS:**

**Helping Hands Committee:**

If you know any St. Mark families that are in need of help due to a birth, sickness, death or any life changing event, please [click here](#) to contact the Helping Hands Committee.

**Attention Volunteers:** All volunteers must sign and return a "Volunteer Pledge Form" before the first day of volunteering. This form can be found in the [Volunteer Handbook](#). Also, volunteers must be Safe Environment trained. [Click here](#) for more details.

**Link Your Shopper Cards & Earn Money for St. Mark:** Remember to link your Kroger, Tom Thumb and Target cards to St. Mark. Kroger cards need to be re-linked every year. [Click here](#) for more details.



**Box Tops:** Keep sending in those Box Tops. 3rd grade is leading the competition and 4th grade is in second place. The deadline for the competition is Friday, April 22. The class with the most Box Tops will win a free dress day on Thursday, April 28!



**NEWS FROM THE  
ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT**

**Track & Field:** Come out and cheer on your LIONS teams! Upcoming Meets:

JV Track

Saturday, April 2, JP II

Saturday, April 9, Jesuit

Saturday, April 16, Bishop Lynch

Varsity Track

Saturday, April 23, JP II

Saturday, April 30, Jesuit

Saturday, May 7, JP II

Saturday, May 14, Bishop Lynch  
(City Meet)

**Baseball:** Come out and cheer on your LIONS team! Upcoming games:

JV vs. St. Rita, April 3, 3:30 PM  
@Breckenridge #2

**Softball:** Come out and cheer on your LIONS team! Upcoming games:

JV vs. St. Monica, April 3, 1:45 PM  
@ Bishop Lynch

**Fall 2016 Sports Registration:**

Registration for fall sports will open on the following dates. Registration fees for each sport are indicated. Stay tuned for more information



## FROM THE NET TEAM

### Let Us Adore

7:30-9:30pm @ St. Mark's Church



Let us Adore is a evening of Eucharistic Adoration, led by the NET Team, that is full of charismatic praise and worship as well as silence. Young and old are invited to pray together as a parish community.

Feb 12th • March 10th • March 31st  
April 14th • May 6th



#### Middle School Open

**Youth House:** This popular weekly get-together for 6th-8th graders takes place every Friday from 3:30-6:00 PM at the St. Mark Youth House, located behind the church. It is an opportunity to hang out with the NET Team and other students from the community. Notify [Patricia Opon](#) by Thursday of each week if your student wishes to attend. St. Mark students are escorted to the Youth House by NET Team members immediately following dismissal. A [Youth Ministry Enrollment Form](#) must be submitted for each participant on an annual basis.

## ST. MARK PARISH 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

in upcoming Weekly School Bulletins:

April 18, 2016

Volleyball (\$115)

Football (\$125)

Cheerleading (\$45)

May 16, 2016

Cross Country (\$70)

#### 2016-17 Volleyball Open Gyms & Team Evaluations:

Open Gyms will be held the Sunday, Monday and Tuesday prior to Team Evaluations on Wednesday. Open Gym sessions are two hours long and include one hour of skills review and one hour of live game drills. Students may attend any or all of the Open Gym sessions, and pre-registration is NOT necessary.

Team Evaluation sessions take place on Wednesdays, and last for two hours. They are conducted by outside staff and are closed to spectators.

#### Varsity (Rising 7th/8th Graders)

**Open Gym:** May 15-17, 4:00-6:00 PM, Bacot Gym

**Team Evaluations: May 18, Bacot Gym**

-Rising 7th graders: 4:00-6:00 PM

-Rising 8th graders: 6:15-8:15 PM



Join us at the following events as we continue to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our parish.

**HISTORY OF ST. MARK FROM A DIOCESAN PERSPECTIVE - April 16, 2016, 10:00 AM, Great Hall of the Parish Center**

We are pleased to announce that Steve Landregan, Historian and Archivist for the Dallas Diocese, will be joining us for a presentation on the history of St. Mark from a Diocesan perspective. Steve is the former Editor of *The Texas Catholic* and author of numerous historical books. Coffee and danish will be served.

**FELLOWSHIP WEEKEND - APRIL 23-24, 2016**

Mark your calendars for St. Marks' **50th Anniversary Fellowship Weekend**. A breakfast of pancakes and sausage with beverages is available after the 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, and 10:30 AM Masses. A lunch/dinner of hamburgers, hot hogs, chips and beverages will be served after the Saturday 5:30 PM and 7:00 PM, and the Sunday 12:00 PM, 1:30 PM, 3:00 PM, 4:30 PM and 6:00 PM Masses. **Meal tickets must be purchased in advance.** Cost for all meals is \$6.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children. There will also be scheduled entertainment by many of our own St. Mark parishioners throughout the

**Junior Varsity (Rising 5th/6th Graders)**

**Open Gym:** May 22-24, 4:00-6:00 PM, Bacot Gym

**Team Evaluations: May 25, Bacot Gym**

-Rising 5th graders: 4:00-6:00 PM  
-Rising 6th graders: 6:15-8:15 PM

**Rising 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Meeting for School Sports - NOTE DATE CHANGE:** Attention all rising 5th grade parents! Is your student interested in participating on a St. Mark sports team or cheerleading next year? This is the meeting for you! There will be a parent information meeting on Wednesday, April 13 from 7:00-8:30 PM in the Cafetorium. Fall sports, cheerleading, the annual sports schedule, open registration announcements, coaching opportunities, physical forms, and more, will be discussed. Please plan to attend if school sports are in your student's future!

**2016-17 Cheer Team Meeting:** Wednesday, April 27, 6:30-8:00 PM, in the Cafetorium. This meeting is for all JV and Varsity cheerleaders/parents (5th-8th grades).

**IMPACT Testing:** The next IMPACT baseline concussion testing will take place on April 5 at 3:30 PM in the Computer Lab. If you'd like your

weekend. **You may purchase your meal tickets for the Fellowship Weekend during the weekends of April 2-3, 9-10, and 16-17 (cash or check only).**

**FEAST OF ST. MARK -  
50th CELEBRATION MASS - April 25,  
2016**

Our celebration will wrap-up on Monday, April 25. The Most Reverend Kevin J. Farrell, D.D., will celebrate our "Feast of St. Mark 50th Anniversary Mass" on April 25, 2016 at 6:30 PM, followed by a reception in our Bethany Narthex. The concelebrants for this Mass will be Fr. Cliff Smith, our current priests, as well as our homegrown priests, Fr. Jason Cargo, Fr. James Yamauchi, and Fr. John Szatkowski. Father Cliff said it perfectly: "We come together this month to celebrate who we are and what our faith community means: what it was, what it is now, and what it will become."

**Please mark your calendars and join us  
for our special Golden Anniversary  
Celebration.**

**JPII PRESENTS SHREK THE MUSICAL**

Join three St. Mark alumni, **Mitchell J. '15, Amanda L. '14 and Dylan C. '14** who will be performing in John Paul II High School's rendition of *Shrek The Musical*:

child to participate, please make an appointment by [clicking here](#). Future dates are also available.



**Upcoming Raising  
Cane's Fundraisers Benefitting the  
Athletics Department:**

-April 8, 2016  
-May 6, 2016  
-May 19, 2016 (last day of 8th  
grade finals)  
June 3, 2016

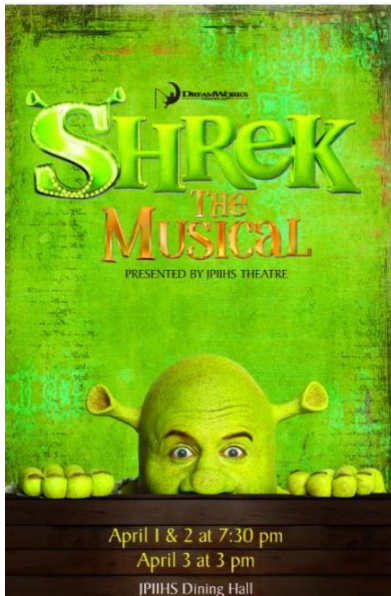
**You're Invited to Upcoming DPL  
Nights:** Free admission if you wear  
your DPL jersey, prize drawings and  
more ...

\* Click for information about the  
upcoming [Ursuline Academy of  
Dallas Softball Night](#)- April 4, 5:00  
PM at Ursuline.

\*Jesuit College Preparatory School  
Baseball Night - April 1, 7:30 PM at  
Jesuit



\*Jesuit College Preparatory  
School Lacrosse Night - April 1, 7:30  
PM at Jesuit



Tickets will be sold at the door. Adults: \$12, Student/Seniors: \$10

### SEEN & HEARD AROUND ST. MARK

**Art History Elective:** The middle school Art History elective is learning about Michelangelo. This week, they are learning how it feels to walk in his shoes as he painted the ceiling in the Sistine Chapel.

(photo removed)

**Pinterest Elective Makes Pizza:** Our Pinterest elective students chose to make "pizza in a mug" this week. What fun!

(photo removed)

**4th Grade Marble Runs:** 4th grade did a STEM challenge this week using specific materials to design and construct marble runs that enabled a marble to travel from top to bottom without veering off course. Students timed their marbles to see which designs were most effective.



\*[Click here](#) for information about the John Paul II High School Softball night - April 7, 6:00 PM at JP II



HOLY TRINITY SEMINARY

St. Mark Catholic School has formed a special relationship with [Holy Trinity Seminary](#) and takes great pride in supporting our future priests.

**Join Us for Public Masses at Holy Trinity Seminary @ 9:15 AM:**  
April 3rd, 17th, 24th; May 1st

Address: 3131 Vince Hagan Drive, Irving, TX 75062

**Questions about the Public Masses?** Call or text Agnes Denvir, VP of Vocations, President-Elect, Serra Club of North Central Dallas. Cell: 214-607-2391, [agnes.denvir@stmcs.net](mailto:agnes.denvir@stmcs.net) or [agnesdenvir@gmail.com](mailto:agnesdenvir@gmail.com).

### FRENCH MASSES AT CISTERCIAN

Mrs. Denvir extends an invitation to St. Mark French students, and any students/families who are interested, to attend the French

(photo removed)

**3rd Grade Molecule Movies:** 3rd grade made their own stop-motion movies this week showing the movement of molecules in the three states of matter: gas, liquid and solid. Students moved red dots around on an illustration of a jar, indicating how the molecules move. They had to take approximately 50 photos with the iPad in order to create their stop-motion movies. [Click here](#) to see an example of a "gas molecule" movie.

**2nd Grade Wind Machines:** 2nd graders were recently challenged to create a machine that measures wind like a meteorologist would use. They built and tested their creations.

(photo removed)

**2nd Grade Art:** Students learned about "cropping" a section of an art piece this week and created their own Van Gogh "Sunflowers" using chalk pastels.

(photo removed)

**Wheelchair Donation:** Ask and you shall receive! A special thank you to 8th grade parent, Melissa Waldon, who is the Coordinator for Disabilities Ministries at the Diocese of Dallas. Through her referral to the Knights of Columbus, St. Mark was the recipient of a brand new wheelchair for our nurse's office that can be used in case of emergency.

(photo removed)

Masses at Cistercian. There is an opportunity to do the readings, and to sample some French snacks at the end of every Mass. Masses take place at Our Lady of Dallas Cistercian Abbey in Irving every 3rd Sunday of the month at 10:30 AM. Upcoming dates: April 17, and May 15.

### CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER PROGRAMS

Our local Catholic high schools offer summer camps for kids of all ages. As we receive their brochures, we will make them available in the school lobby, or you can click below to learn more:

[Bishop Lynch High School](#)  
[Cistercian Preparatory School](#)  
[Jesuit College Preparatory School](#)  
[John Paul II High School](#)  
[Ursuline Academy of Dallas](#)

### JESUIT RANGERETTES 2016 TRYOUTS

Is your Ursuline Academy student interested in trying out for the Jesuit Rangerettes Drill Team?

Parent Information Meeting  
April 11, 6:30 PM, Jesuit

Tryout Practices  
April 11 & 12, 4:00-6:30 PM, Jesuit

Tryouts  
April 13, 4:00-8:30 PM, Jesuit

[Click here](#) for more information.

### JPII PALs Visit 5th Grade:

Representatives from the John Paul II High School Peer Assistance & Leadership team (PAL) visited our 5th graders on Monday and talked with them about the dangers of drugs and alcohol. It always has an impact when older peers who they look up to discuss these topics with them.

(photo removed)

### IN ALUMNI NEWS...

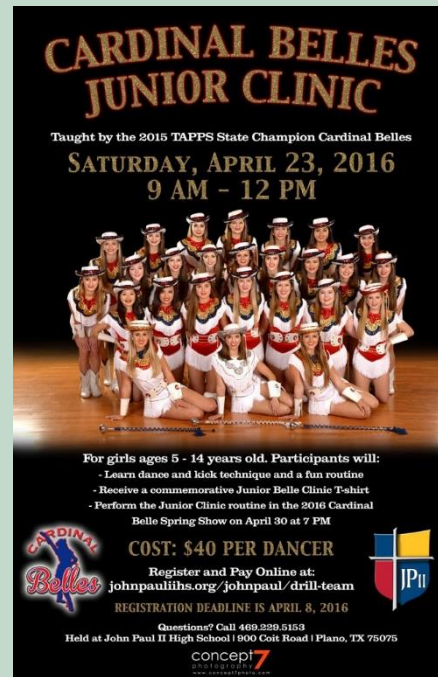
Congratulations to **Margaret G. '13**, current junior at Bishop Lynch High School, who was recently named to the BL chapter of the National Honor Society.

**Alumni Family Update:** As always, we love getting updates from alumni families! Here are just a few things that the S. family has been up to since graduating from St. Mark:

**Kelly S. '96** attended Ursuline Academy of Dallas. She earned a BS in Chemical Engineering from Texas A&M, a Masters of Engineering from North Carolina State, and a JD from the SMU School of Law. She works as a patent attorney in Dallas. She is married to Jared T., and they have two children.

**Katie S. '99** attended Ursuline Academy of Dallas. She has a Bachelor of Social Work and a Master of Social Work from The University of Texas. She currently works as a second grade teacher in the Dallas ISD and recently became engaged to Michael T.

### JPII CARDINAL BELLES JUNIOR CLINIC



**CARDINAL BELLES JUNIOR CLINIC**

Taught by the 2015 TAPPS State Champion Cardinal Belles

**SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2016**  
9 AM - 12 PM

For girls ages 5 - 14 years old. Participants will:

- Learn dance and kick technique and a fun routine
- Receive a commemorative Junior Belle Clinic T-shirt
- Perform the Junior Clinic routine in the 2016 Cardinal Belle Spring Show on April 30 at 7 PM

**COST: \$40 PER DANCER**

Register and Pay Online at:  
[johnpaulihs.org/johnpaul/drill-team](http://johnpaulihs.org/johnpaul/drill-team)

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 8, 2016

Questions? Call 469.329.5153  
Held at John Paul II High School | 900 Coit Road | Plano, TX 75075

concept 7  
CONCEPT 7  
www.concept7.com

### AT ST. MARK, WE SERVE.

#### March All School Service

**Project:** Our March All-School Service Project benefitting White Rose and Birth Choice pregnancy crisis centers was a huge success! Our middle school students donated change towards the purchase of cribs, car seats and other large items for the centers, and they once again raised over \$2,000! Our Student Council officers presented checks to these organizations at a special middle school assembly held Wednesday afternoon. Our students were also able to ask questions and hear about success stories from the center representatives, and learned that their fundraising efforts truly



**Erin S. '03** attended Ursuline Academy of Dallas. She then attended Texas A&M, where she received a BS in Psychology in 2011. In 2012, she received an MS in Applied Cognition and Neuroscience from UTD, and she just completed another MS in Psychology at UNT in 2015. She is currently working toward her PhD in Clinical Psychology, and plans to work as a clinical neuropsychology researcher after graduation. While at Texas A&M, Erin was a member of the rowing team, rowing all four years, and serving as the women's Varsity Captain her senior year. After graduating from A&M, Erin moved back to Dallas. Her former Ursuline Academy Crew coach approached her about taking on a coaching position, and as a result, she has been serving as the Head Coach of the Ursuline Crew team for the past five years. She also married Adrian B. on January 2 of this year at St. Mark Catholic Church (with our own Rene O'Connor serving as the Wedding Coordinator!).

Congratulations to **Nate K. '14**, current sophomore at John Paul II High School, who is a member of the Dallas Penguins hockey team. They won their State Championship and will be competing in the National Tournament in New Jersey!

(photo removed)

Congratulations to **Jake K. '12**, current senior at John Paul II High School, who is a member of the Texas Warriors hockey team. They won their State Championship

make a difference. Our 6th graders enjoyed a free dress day for filling their change container first, and all middle school students enjoyed ice cream at lunch as a reward for their generosity.

The Respect Life Club was also on-hand Wednesday to collect needed "Baby Shower" items in the morning carpool lines. Our families were so generous once again, donating car seats, a stroller, clothing, diapers and wipes, and baby accessories. The Knights of Columbus Council 6065 and their Ladies Auxiliary sorted and transported the items to the centers. Thank you to the St. Mark community for another successful Baby Shower!



### SOLES 4 SOULS SHOE COLLECTION

Isabella, a 13-year-old St. Mark parishioner, is hosting a shoe drive for the needy. Her goal is to collect 1,000 pairs of gently used shoes of any kind and size during the period of March 20-April 24, which will be donated to the non-profit

and will be competing in the National Tournament in Buffalo, New York!

(photo removed)

**John Paul II High School Soccer Stars:**

Congratulations to the following alumni who were honored at the JP II Soccer Banquet this week:

**Ryan M. '12:** TAPPS District MVP; 1st Team All-District Defender; 1st Team All-State Defender; JP II Varsity Team MVP; Texas Association of Soccer Coaches "Academic All State" Award

**Rafael D. '12:** Honorable Mention- All-District Defender; JP II Varsity Team True Cardinal

**Roberto O. '12:** 1st Team All-District Midfielder; 2nd Team All-State Midfielder; JP II Varsity Team True Cardinal

**Zachary M. '15:** JV Defensive Player of the Year

Congratulations to **Blair T. '07**. She is a starting player on the #1 ranked NCAA Women's Division II basketball team at Lubbock Christian University. The team's season record is 34-0. They will play in the NCAA Division II Championship game on April 4 in Indianapolis, IN at 3:00 PM EST. It's interesting to note that in 2007, Blair was a member of the St. Mark Varsity D1 girls basketball team that won the DPL Championship that year, and also listed the WNBA in the yearbook as her chosen career! After leaving our halls, she attended John Paul II High School, where

organization [Soles4souls](#). As you do your spring cleaning and clear out your closets, please consider bringing your unwanted shoes to Mrs. O'Connor's office during this time period.



**LION PRIDE!**

**Science Fair:** Congratulations to the winners of the 2016 Science Fair! This year's projects were so impressive. Students from John Paul II High School served as our judges.

**7th Grade**

1st place-Tessa T./Lainey M.-Pet Paw Preference

2nd place-Justus B./Alex E.-Cooling a Hot Mouth

3rd place-Emilio R./Mason T.-Best Bouncing Surface

Honorable Mention-

Delanie V./Courtney M.-Eye Color and Sight

Daniel B./Xander G./David G.-

Organic VS Nonorganic Potatoes

**8th Grade**

1st place-Jalen L./Nicholas L.-Electric Motor

2nd place-Carissa T./Chelsea A.-Organic VS Chemical Cleaners

3rd place-Minh-Khanh P./Jonathan D.-Magnet Levitation

Honorable Mention-

she was also a member of the basketball team.

### **Alum Earns Ursuline Soccer Heart**

**Award:** Congratulations to **Savannah H. '15** who received the JV Soccer "Heart Award" at the Ursuline Academy Soccer Banquet this week. This is the only JV award presented, and is given to the player who represents the "heartbeat" of the team.

### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PRO-LIFE BINGO KNIGHT**



The K of C Santa Maria Council 6065 from St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church invites you to their "Bingo Knight" benefitting pro-life charities and numerous other Knights projects. Saturday, April 2 at 6:30 PM in the Cafetorium. \$30 at the door. Must be 21 years old. To become a table sponsor or make a donation, contact Mike Bernatis at [mbernatis@msn.com](mailto:mbernatis@msn.com). Come to win -- grand prize is a \$600 VISA Gift Card! Bring a new Baby Shower Gift for a free additional Bingo card for the grand prize!

Lindsey G./Kyanna I.-Best Food Preserving Container  
Antonio M./Kevin N.-Paint Drying Time

**DECATS:** The DeBusk Enrichment Center for Academically Talented Students offers a summer enrichment program to qualifying students attending Catholic schools within the Diocese of Dallas. Students in grades 3-8 are nominated to participate based on standardized testing results and are invited to apply to the DECATS program. Students who are accepted into the program, and choose to attend, take part in an intensive study of four courses during a three-week summer session. Course topics, of a divergent educational nature, emphasize hands-on and exploratory learning. Congratulations to the St. Mark students who were accepted into the program, and will attend this summer:

#### Junior DECATS (grades 3-5):

Bernadette C., Jackson D.,  
Adrienne F., Renil G., Sophie K.,  
Peter K., Jeremy M., Ryan W.

#### Senior DECATS (grades 6-8):

Jacob A., Abby A., Travis A.,  
Hannah B., Nick C., Kyanna I.,  
Natalie J., Anish K., Paul K., Nathan  
M., Antonio M., Audrey P., Jacob  
R., Sophia S., Charlie S., Tia T.,

Carissa T., Fitch T., Declan W.,  
Megan W.

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